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expansion of ultra-Protestantism, and the French Revolution contribute chiefly the primary European elements to this story. The final facts with which this first volume ends are the settlement in increasing numbers of English colonists and the rise of modern humanitarianism, the anti-slavery movement and its relations. Roughly the first 150 pages deal with the period to 1806, when ultimate Dutch authority came to an end in this region. Besides the topics already mentioned, the development of a judicial system, land tenure, the labor question, and the start in South Africa of modern missionary work are also included. The chapters which will probably arouse the greatest interest in the specialist on South African history are those on the struggle for the Zuurfeld, which led to the British establishment of Grahamstown; and secondly on the Dutch "rebellion" which led to the death of several of its leaders at Slagter's Nek. This much discussed event marks one of the early mile-stones in the history of Anglo-Dutch antipathy and is here handled in sympathetic yet scholarly fashion. In general the early English versions and the later Boer traditions are both rejected. Thirdly, the concluding chapter is of particular interest in that it deals with the first combined militant movement by white men against the Kaffir. At the end come the English settlers of 1820.

The students of British imperial history will find in this volume a sober story of the beginnings of a recent and entangled problem. Here we find the same earnest inability to understand, the same unfortunate sense of justice, the same evangelical and Nonconformist conscience at home, and the same inevitable expansion of British authority, to which the memories of the last decade can so abundantly testify. But South African history is splendid stuff; and this volume with its valuable extracts from records and its careful method is a contribution to the better understanding of it.

ALFRED L. P. DENNIS.

*A History of Japan.* By JAMES MURDOCH, M.A. Volume I. *From the Origins to the Arrival of the Portuguese in 1542 A. D.* (Yokohama, Shanghai, Hongkong, Singapore: Kelly and Walsh, Ltd.; London: Kegan Paul, Trübner and Company, Ltd.; Leipzig: Otto Harrassowitz. 1910. Pp. viii, 668.)

PERHAPS one may divide the past four decades of the parallel progress of the writing of Japanese history by Occidentals and of the study of their own history by the Japanese into the following three stages. In the first stage, the Japanese were too eager for new learning to cast a retrospective glance upon their past, and the old scholars of history were neglected for the time being; the books produced by Western writers on Japan were correspondingly puerile, one very popular work, which is still considered an authority in some quarters, containing passages written by the author's Japanese pupils as their lessons in English composi-

tion. With the sudden growth of nationalism in Japan, however, the historical study of her people quickly passed into the second stage, in which not only were the old scholars and old materials recalled to service, but also sources, hitherto but little known lurking in temples and private homes, were systematically searched, studied, and collated. The amount of the new materials thus collected and of the new views of history they forced upon the student was enormous. At the same time, there were now a few Europeans who had acquired sufficient knowledge of the Japanese language and culture to be able to make an intelligent use of the service of native assistants for the purpose of historical writings. These were, however, still too crude to merit the notice of Japanese historians, while the latter's active researches were too special and minute to be comprehensible to foreign authors. The two, therefore, remained, as they still do to a large extent in the present third stage, strangers to one another. At this stage, the native scholars are gradually emerging from the work of deciphering old documents into that of constructive criticism of their contents, from the culling of authentic data to their analysis and interpretation. Almost wholly unrelated to this vigorous movement among Japanese historians, a few foreign authors seem now to have come to a point where they get first-hand glimpses of the vast literature of Japanese history and apply to it, in some measure, not scientific criticism, but what might be termed the criticism of common-sense. Mr. Murdoch's first volume is by far the best product of this stage.

The first four chapters, on the period before 645, abound with proofs of the author's critical acumen, pointing out in his half-playful manner many inconsistencies in the *Nihongi*. He accepts Mr. Hulbert's theory that some southern Koreans came, not from the north, but from the South Sea by way of Ryūkyū and Kyūshū, and makes an extensive application of this hypothesis to primeval Japanese. One misses in these chapters reference to the archaeological finds made recently in Korea and on her northern borders, as also in Japan since Gowland's time. The significant story of Illa is passed by as "strange" (p. 108). The germs of institutional reform after about 500 A. D. which were caused by economic necessity, and which heralded the events after 645, are not clearly brought out. As a consequence, the Reform of the latter year (ch. v.) is described as much more abrupt and thorough than recent researches seem to prove. The Reform is treated much more fully than by Brinkley or La Mazelière, but Mr. Murdoch's views as to what seems to have been done by the reformers about the land and men under private control, how extensive was the area in which the new measures were enforced, and what was the status under the new régime of those older institutions which confront us again after 645, must be said to be inconclusive. The next chapters (vi.-xi.), bringing the story down to the fall of the Taira, shows with the author's usual clearness how the influence of the bureaucratic government at Kyoto waned. Political events are

well handled, and the great social changes of the period receive emphasis. The important question, however, as to how the control of some of the landed estates of the civil nobles passed into the hands of armed stewards, is not treated in a manner to satisfy the careful inquirer, and the ambiguity on this point affects the chapter on Yoritomo, otherwise so excellent. The reason for this weakness lies in the fact, which can be easily established, that the author has not studied the material at Tōzhi, Kōyasan, and other places about *shōen*, without which no discussion of this important period is possible. Nor does he seem even to have examined the works of those Japanese scholars who have studied these sources.

In the chapters on Yoritomo and the Hōjō (xiii.-xv.), the analyses of the Minamoto government (save the author's ideas of the *ji-tō*, which call for a reconsideration) and its subsequent development, of the changed moral tone of the age and the rise of the woman's position in society, of the good administration of the first Hōjō regents, and of other topics, seem lucid and just. For his study of the Mongol invasions, he has made use of Marco Polo and some Korean accounts, but the Japanese *Fuku-teki hen* and *Sei-sen i-seki* are not mentioned.

The chapter on the temporary restoration of 1333 contains a paragraph on local governors (pp. 549-550) in which the *koku-shi* and *shu-go* appear to have been confused, and the author omits reference to the additional imposition levied by the *ji-tō*, which may have been a large cause for the unpopularity and the failure of Godaigo. It is specially gratifying to see the progress of feudalization after the fourteenth century strongly emphasized (pp. 586 ff., 619 ff.), but the gradual clarifying process of the time, by which the regimen of the steward of the estate passed into that of the baron of the fief, might well have been shown with greater clearness. The prevailing trend toward better rural administration is touched upon (p. 588) but not developed. Both these themes would have been of high value, had Mr. Murdoch arranged to write the second volume of his series after the first, instead of the reverse.

It is disappointing that the author has not thought it desirable to give more attention to the culture history of each epoch. Nothing is said of the interesting process of receiving and assimilating foreign culture as illustrated in the art relics of the Suiko and Nara periods; of the great philosophy and ritualism of Shingon; of the extremely aesthetic but almost non-moral culture of the Kyoto Court, and its imitation by the Taira. Hō-wō-dō is mentioned, but Chū-son-zhi is not, and the culture shown in the art of the two temples is buried in silence. The painted rolls of the Kamakura period, so eloquent of the manners and views of life of all classes, receive no mention. The "pictorial art" of the Ashikaga epoch is attributed to the Zen influence (pp. 621, 634), but the reader is not told that it was the landscape painting which typified the spirit of power under control that manifested itself in many other forms in the life of the nation. Nor is the deep significance in this life of

the new Buddhist sects that rose after the Kamakura age satisfactorily explained (*cf.* pp. 479, 482, 595). The reader will suspect that the author's neglect of culture history may be due to his lack of interest in it, rather than to lack of space. He calls Brinkley's respectable chapter on the Hei-an culture "flamboyant".

It is only just to refer to the great abundance throughout the volume of suggestive and acute comments on subjects of importance in Japanese history. See, for example, remarks on national psychology on pages 123-124 and 485; on Buddhist images absorbing the metallic resources of the country (p. 191); on the difference in China and Japan of the relative importance attached to the virtues of loyalty and filial piety (p. 204); on the Minamoto chiefs supplying funds for the luxury of the Fujiwara (p. 267); on the study among Japanese warriors of Chinese works on military tactics (pp. 285, 631); on the area and population of Kamakura (p. 378); on the condition of the peasant under the Ashikaga (p. 603); on the emperorship in the Onin epoch (p. 633); and on the size of Kyoto (p. 635). Mr. Murdoch also has a lively interest in personalities, and his descriptions and estimates of them are always interesting.

If some of the best parts of the work are not as convincing as they are suggestive, and if the volume is open to serious criticisms even at this stage of our knowledge, that is due to the physical impossibility for any foreigner to compass within a few years the immense and fast accumulating historical literature of Japan. Mr. Murdoch's results do not show that he has exhausted even those sources that are accessible to any enterprising student, to say nothing of the far greater volume of sources in limited editions or in manuscripts. It is evident that he has not surveyed the important works of contemporary Japanese historians on any period. Nor can it be said that such material as fell within his notice has been used with sufficient criticism; he even does not free himself from some of the legends and dogmas which have long since been discarded by Japanese. It is also difficult to understand why he does not give more bibliographical data than he does on pages 189-190, where he copies from another author. He also has incorporated without giving due credit to them results of other scholar's work, some of which had been put forward only tentatively and as a challenge for criticism and have even been modified by their authors. Mr. Murdoch undoubtedly must have reasons for this practice, for he did not resort to it in his second volume and does not follow it invariably in the present.

The somewhat rigorous criticisms of the work contained in this review attest the high respect of the reviewer for the quality of the production and his pleasure of seeing its successful publication. There have not appeared many works in English on the general history of Japan that are worthy of the name, and hardly one deserves a sober criticism more than Mr. Murdoch's two volumes. His third volume will now be awaited by many readers with much interest.